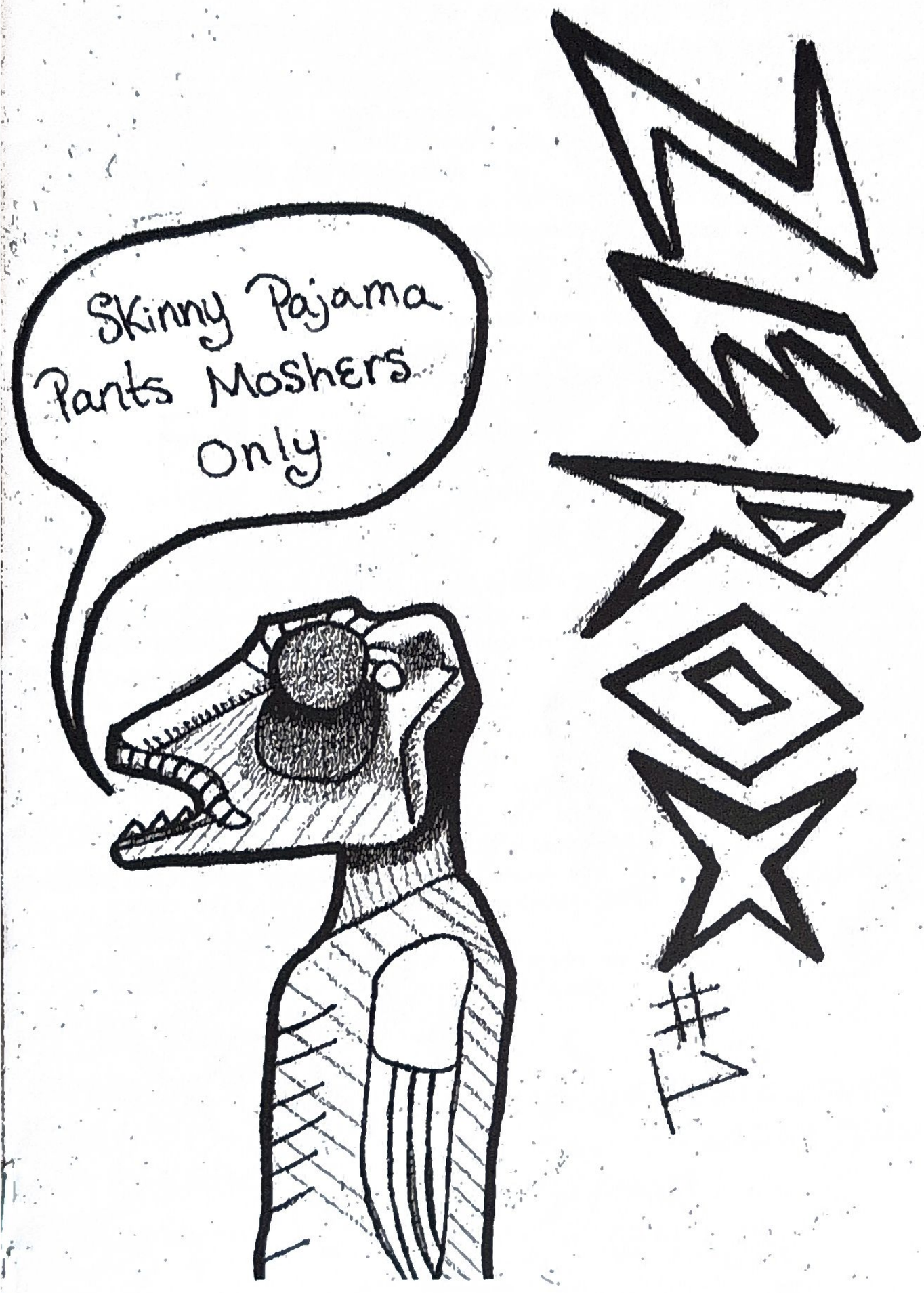
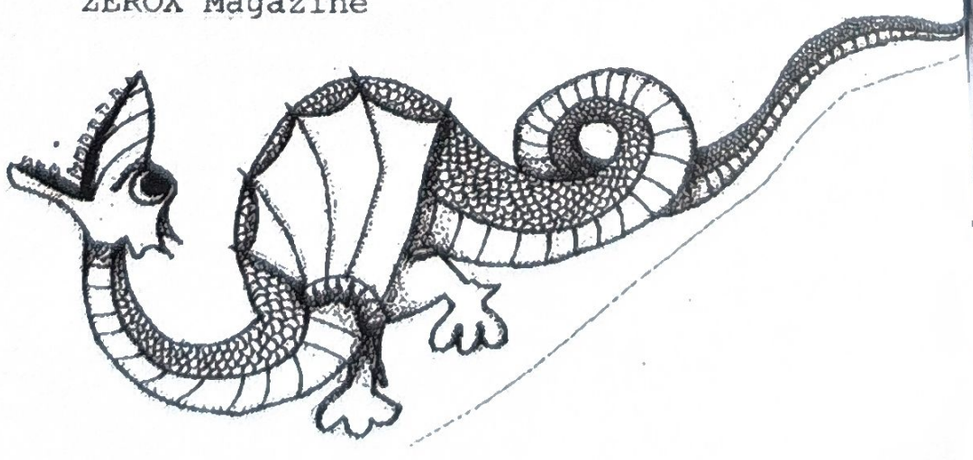

ZERO X
#1
Skinny Pajama Pants Moshers Only

An Introduction
For ZEROX Magazine #1
By Ellis Zeller

It's 10:06 AM, Friday, May 1st, and I'm sitting in my English class. Twelve days til deadline, sixteen til publication, and I have not started on my intro piece for this zine. I still don't know what to write and really, I should be working on a ten page essay that's due in three days, but I forgot my laptop at home, so here we are cooking on ZEROX instead. I'm wishing I was anywhere but this evil community college right now, and thinking that goddamn, this is maybe my fourth iteration of this intro where I talk about how I don't actually know how to write an intro. And, shit, my essay for this English class is hideously underwritten. And, woe is me, I fucking hate writing for school. Something like this, though… beauty in its finest form. There is a kind of clarity and happiness I get from writing something I actually believe in. I hope you can feel those same emotions by flipping through this zine. Kansas City hasn't really had a proper punk fanzine for a minute, to my knowledge, so I feel enormously blessed to work with Liz on bringing that back. I won't keep you on this front page too long. I know attention spans are short these days and I'm one to ramble on top of that. Really, though, give this a read. Or two or three or four. Start your own zine. Learn how to play drums. Start a damn band. Send us mail! (nonissuemedia@gmail.com). Just do something new, because God only knows that more of the same will just bring boredom. Anyways… we all hope you like this.

From us to you, with sincerity.
ZEROX Magazine



UPCOMING SHOWS

BY ELLIS ZELLER.

5/17: MACHINE COUNTRY, QUICK ON THE DRAW MY SPIRIT IS GONE, + WHERE THE RED FERN GROWS @ DRAGONS DEN

5/18: HAZE GAZER, HORSEBOY, NIGHT TENNIS + WOUNDED CRANE @HowSy

PUNK VS. EMO: LUCKY DRAGON No.5 FIELD CREEK, CHERNOBYL DOGS, MY SPIRIT IS GONE @ DRAGONS DEN (5/23)

5/25: Star Funeral, INTERNET DATEING, REMORSEFULLY NUMB + FIELD CREEK @ HowSy

5/30 HOLD OUT TILL MA SUICIDE PREVENTION SHO

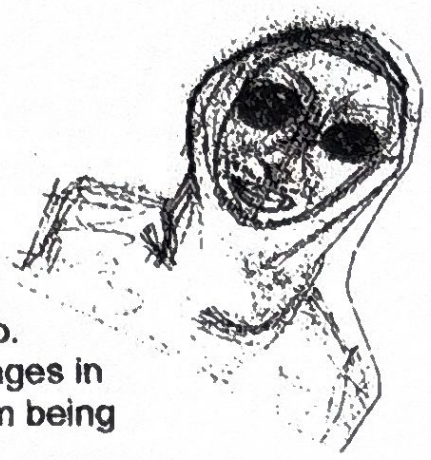
FIND FIONA, MY SPIRIT IS GONE, FIELD CREEK +AVAILABLE ON SUNDAY @BLOOD BANK

RYAN'S BIRTHDAY BEAT[illegible] LEGALIZE HOMICIDE, PA12, GODTALK, FABRIC OF SELF, THIRTY AUGHT SIX, VERDANT, + STIFFY @ SOCCER LOT

6/12 6x11im, MISSOURI EXECUTIVE ORDER 44, NIGHT TENNIS +VERDANT @ HowSy

PIECES OF AN INTERVIEW FOR ZEROX: MY SPIRIT IS GONE, Interviewed by Liz

L: we'll see how much of this we get and go from there
L: First of all, would you like to introduce yourself?
E: My name is Eli, I play guitar and vocals
D: My name is Dylan, I play the drums
J: My name is John and I play bass
L: Would you like to introduce your band? Does your band have a name/
J: No
E: Not really
D: No, ya we are nobody
E: My Spirit is gone
All: Laughing
E: That's not the band name, that is just a comment
L: That is just a comment?
D: ya
L: So you don't have a band name yet?
E: ya, No, but My Spirit is Gone
L: Okay
D: Yes, Sir
L: Well that is what is going on record, congrats
L: How long have you guys been in a band?
D: We started jamming in September, was it like September?
J: I think I made it a three piece in November.
D: That sounds about right
E: Me and Dylan started jamming on it in like September.
J: There was a good four or five pieces of things that were already there to learn.
E: Ya I think it was like October that you joined, it was halfway through October. Me and Dylan started late september , ya john joined late october.
D:We were jamming with this dude named Zack
E: Oh ya, we were jamming at Zack's house on screamo shit, and then we kinda left it sitting for two weeks. Then we went and saw this band called Sissy Sissy Sissy, opening for this crust band Lagrimas at Record Bar. And Sissy Sissy Sissy is so sick they are Chicago Screamo. And I listened to that and I was like, I want to do some shit like that, So when I texted Dylan, I was like lets do this.
L: So you guys identify fully as screamo?
E: pretty much
L: no other influences, just straight screamo?
E: No, when I write I am influenced by a lot. Like Midwest emo, and some post hardcore stuff.
D: Didn't you say Midwest Screamo earlier
E: No, that was some other band, I don't want to describe us as Midwest Screamo. I think it is a little silly,
D: It is a little bit too corny.
E: We are already from the Midwest, you know?



D: It is just inherent to our nature.
E:I think Midwest emo and Midwest Screamo is silly, just call it Emo.
D: Ya, fuck dude, we have a shit ton of influence. My drumming ranges in influence. I love screamo, but I don't listen to a whole lot of it, if I am being quite honest. John and I are both in that boat.
J: Ya, I'll throw on the cool stuff that Eli sends, but that is about the limit of being a screamo fan. It is weird.
D: I was going to say, I do a bit of my own dabbling in my free time. I do like it, I just normally listen to Mathcore and shit. I also like a lot of Latin music and latin rhythms and shit. I love Latin grooves so fucking much. I will throw so much of that in shit in there, like a good three over two polyrythm. Love that shit. My favourite drummers are all the guys who have played in Dillinger. Fuck, I love the drumming on Glassjaws records, Justin Beck, justin Beck is a great drummer.
E: Is that the Israeli one?
D:Yeah, yeah, oh good old Justin Beck. But, yah who else was I going to say? Mario Duplantier?
E: Not Mario Juda?
D: No, not Mario Juda.
E: Where the fuck is Mario Juda?
D: Mario Juda is my favorite fucking artist of all time. I'm kidding, I kid.
D: John, who are your influences? Wither John. I have not called you that in a minute
J: Well it is weird because the bass that I really like playing is not at all like [screamo].
L: Really?
J: Ya, I'd say that when I am practicing for chops and shit, I play a lot of Band Called Death, because they kinda just poached a bunch of jazz bassists. That is like good, weird tricks to learn.
E: Is this death metal death or proto-punk death?
J: Not the death you would like
E: awww
L: It sounds like there is a lot of jazz and latin [influences] running through this side of the band.
J: Ya, they [band called death] got super proggy towards the end of their run.
D: Their last couple of records are straight, progressive death metal. I love the bassist they have, Steve DeGiorgio? The guy that plays the fretless [bass guitar]. He was fucking beautiful.
J: Ya, he is probably my biggest influence, for wanting to be a better bassist, I don't like to incorporate too many of those tricks, but for cool patterns and shaves and ideas, he is a big influence.
L: Well, Eli, we found out that you are the only screamo listener.
E: I listen to too much screamo and not enough of anything else. I'm a chud that only listens to one kind of music.
D: I am like that for mathcore and post-hardcore, so I think it is fine.

PIECES OF AN INTERVIEW FOR ZEROX: MY SPIRIT IS GONE, Interviewed by Liz

L: So yall, have a wide range of [influence], who primarily writes though?
J+D: Eli
J: Eli writes and me and Dylan make cool mistakes, I guess.
D: ya, basically
E: Ya, there are a lot of happy accidents that go into shit, we've got this one dance beat on a song.
D: I don't even think it was supposed to be.
J:You just accidentally played a dance beat.
E: It was supposed to be a two-step beat. And Dylan played a dance beat and we were like holy shit, that is fucking tough.
L: Just one big happy accident?
D: That is one of my favourite parts of our upcoming EP. Not out yet.
E: Shout out Elliot, he gets grounded a lot since he is still in highschool, so we are kinda waiting for the EP to come out. It has taken a minute.
L: So you are working on an EP then?
E: ya it will be out, hopefully in May. it was supposed to be coming out right about now. He [Eliot] will get his shit together.
D:Maybe he will do some dumb shit over the summer and get grounded for that too?
L: why does he get grounded so much?
E: Bad grades, he just plays too much rock and roll and forgets to do school. I don't think my college work is great, because I am playing too much rock and roll.
D:You guys are doing the right thing. Music and living your life, it is more important than that [school]. Although being smart is still really important, stay in school.
E: I don't learn shit from school, I learn everything from reading books. And watching weird documentaries,
D: Meeting a diverse range of people.
L: for the record John has a real job
J: Ya
E: Ya, John has a real job and a more nuanced outlook on life.
L: You guys run in the scene pretty heavily and stuff. I am curious how ya'll end up in it?
E: Um, November 2023, my buddy Josh posted on his Instagram notes a Roman Candles song. And that was right around the time that I was expanding my mind musically. I liked hardcore punk like Bad Brains and Black Flag but I wasn't interested in modern hardcore like I am now. And I thought the music was cool but I didn't really dig the screaming vocals then. Obviously I do now. So I responded, I was like "Yo this is cool" and he was like " they're playing a show two weeks from now in North Kansas City if you want to go".So I was like fuck it and I went with Josh to the show and I fell in love with hardcore then. I was playing in Hockey Smile over the summer and Dylan was at a couple of our shows.
D: Oh, I was at a lot of your shows.

E: Yeah, I met Dylan there, and then we started talking and hanging out, then started the band. And, I have known John, dude, I've known John for a minute too.
J: It is weird, I would say if Howdy was the crown, I would say you [Eli] were my gateway to DIY music. The way I met you took like, six to eight months longer than that, yeah.
L: Do you guys have any fun places you would like to play at?
E: I have three, I would like to play Chicago, to play with Sissy Sissy Sissy. I would like to play Denton, Texas, the emo, screamo of the world. I do not know where in Michigan Jingwei is from but I want to play a show with Jingwei someday.
L: So you guys are almost localized?
J: ya it is a weird strip between Texas and the far north Midwest.
L: It's like Tornado Ally.
E: The Tornado Ally screamo connection. [...] There are good bands on the East and Northwest and shit, but like the Southwest and the Midwest are really the coolest.
L: That is interesting considering where screamo originates from, that you associate it [cool screamo bands] with the Midwest, Southwest and not the coasts.
E: Yeah, because emo came from the East Coast, with the D.C. scene with Revolution Summer. I think it is really interesting how it branched out, kinda died off, then you had Midwest emo in the 90s, so there is your Midwest starting point.
D: Dude, I hate the midwest.
J:Yeah, if you're not in a big city, it is just kinda depressing to look at.
L: So does this play a part in your music writing?
E: I just kinda write shit, anytime I feel like shit, I just write and then it makes me feel a little bit better.
L: So your lyrics are pretty personal then?
E: yeah, I try to write lyrics about stuff that is real to me.
L: Do all three of you write?
J: I'd say the creative process is, like, Eli has an idea, and then we usually just jam it and it ends up being a 12 minute song, then we turn it into a 4 minute song. We usually exist within one scale, and we move around it, Dylan is good enough at drums that you can kinda just improvise over it.
D: That is so sweet, because I think I fucking suck.
E: Dylan is pretty solid at drums, I'll come into practice and be like I want this kinda drum part here, and Dylan just plays it. It works and it's a good Dynamic.
D: Yeah today in practice I had the most involvement in songwriting.
E: Yeah I had no idea what to do with that part, but I am happy with where the song ended up.
J: I played the wrong part, and you were like wait, hang on.
D: Yeah, Happy accidents.

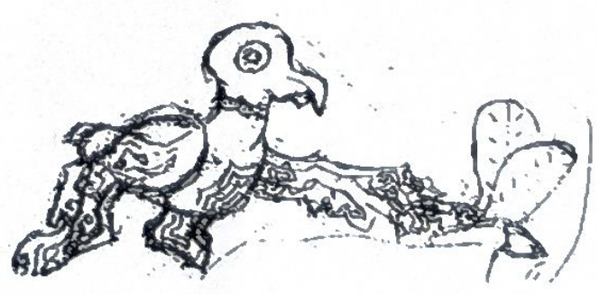
The minding of Stæria

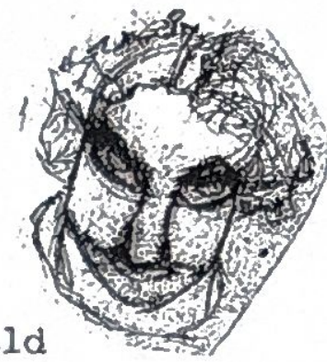
From Kansas to the Show Me Showcase: Chaos in America's Heartland
For ZEROX Magazine #1
By Ellis Zeller

It's about 10:40 in the morning, and I'm riding shotgun in Mason's passenger seat on the way to the Show Me Showcase, Springfield's second annual hardcore show aimed at exhibiting the sounds of Missouri's greater scene. John's in the back seat talking about how Earth Crisis and Hatebreed changed hardcore. We're on K-10. Yellow grass and gray trees fly by the edge of this hellish concrete concoction. The vegetation should be green and flowery right about now, but it still remains in the depressing woes of a Midwest winter, thanks to an unexpected late freeze. A reminder that it's not quite spring. But the clouds are still pillowy fluffs. Beauty in a hazy morning sky.

It continues like this all the way to Springfield, us dipping and dodging thru winding concrete dragon's tails rising from the ground, traffic carried on top and under and in between. A Taco Bell pit stop to fill our bellies with value menu junk food. Spooked, we won't make it on time so we're driving fifteen over while I look out for cops because we're worried that doors will sell out or music will start or both before we get there and then...

1:52 PM. We roll into a gravel parking lot filled with food trucks, shitty Ford Econoline vans hauling musical equipment, hardcore kids walking around in oversized black t-shirts and oversized black Carhartt pants and oversized black piercings. '90s hip hop rattling from the PA, maybe a solid 20% louder than what's needed. Faces from far and wide: Kansas City, Nebraska, St. Louis, Wichita, Lawrence, the obvious Springfield, Joplin! Everyone's making the rounds. I'm seeing faces I haven't seen for months. It's great.





And then the hip hop cuts. Guitars roar. A wild cacophony of feedback and distortion. The day's soundtrack. Stall Fight plays. Mean, moshy, powerviolence-tinged beatdown hardcore, or maybe beatdown-tinged powerviolence, depending how you cut it. Guitar riff after guitar riff designed to evoke fights strung together with frantic and unexpected changes of tempo and rhythm, words that switch between Cookie Monster growls and desperate screams, and friends stealing the vocalist's microphone at least once per song to show they know the lyrics.

Mason manages to split his knuckle open during the Stall Fight set. Blood streams from his hand and stains his fancy blue and white Nike windbreaker. A Band-Aid will suffice for now. I find Stall Fight and talk to them about their music. Grooveviolence, they call it. Why? They like groove metal and powerviolence. Go figure. They've mixed the two for this fast, strange, harsh, and, beyond that, youthful blend. Talking to Stall Fight, they say their scene has lots of growth, it's very forward-moving. Not stuck in the past. The kids force progress. Some scenes are filled with older people. Even if the youth are going to shows, they're not starting bands. Just oldheads playing the same hardcore that they've been playing since they were eighteen. Springfield cannot be held to this.

After a few sets more, I'm really feeling that youthful, forward-moving Springfieldian spirit. Lately, I've been keenly aware that the world is fucked. We're all moving towards a total decimation at the hands of climate collapse or nuclear warfare or the growing class divide. It's easy to get bogged down in that doom and gloom. But in this fucked up reality, there's also the knowledge that we have each other. Every time someone flings themselves from the pit into the crowd, a stage is dived off of, or a mic

is grabbed, this only further reinforces it. This is a culture of communal chaos, and not many people understand why or how. That is a good thing. Those who don't get it will leave or start a fight or go to a few shows, make an Instagram post, then promptly disappear. Those who *do* get it, however, will stay, finding themselves surrounded by some of the

greatest friends they'll ever know. We are all following each other into abandon.

But where was I? I'm eating a lime-coconut snow cone now. Down the Barrel just played and someone jumped off of a speaker in lieu of there being a stage. Things are starting to get rowdy. There are legitimate gymnastics in the pit. Cartwheels and various spins and flips. By 5:45 PM, Missouri Executive Order 44 finishes their set. Maybe my favorite band from Kansas City. Mormon-themed mathgrind that wears bike helmets. What's not to love?

All of this rock music builds up to Act With Empathy, Springfield's premiere youth crew band. There is no moshing for this set. Everyone packs in. We're all up front, shouting along with lyrics of self-growth and positivity, jumping off of speakers. Fighting for the mic and for our community. You can feel it all around. We're all comrades in this war against anything and everything. It doesn't matter what ails us because we're gonna be together for it anyways. That's special.

And it's all coming to a close now. We're hanging out at Mason's car. He shows our friends Aria and Dylan the drink he got at Taco Bell earlier. The cream in it has curdled. Dylan gags. And then Legalize Homicide, Squint, and Vulgarity play to end the day. The sun's down. It's getting chilly.

Now it's about ten at night. I'm sitting in a Braum's with John and Mason and Aria and Dylan. Our

bellies are full of fajitas and chimichangas and chips and salsa from the Mexican restaurant across the street, and we're downing ice cream as our dessert. A reward for this long day of music. We are fattened and full but ultimately content with the love we have for each other. Sweat has dried on our clothes, we smell like dogs and butt. The lights are a little green, and the floors are tiled white and there's pink decoration all over. An employee in the kitchen is being told he'll need to be retrained because he gave Mason too much ice cream. We are sleepy. We are dirty. Above all, we are happy.

ELI CALLED ME A POSER

I probably Am :(

IDE A

WANNAWIN WITHOUT LOSING

SSY SISSY SISSY

LNISHED

CONCEALER

Could fall in Love with Anyone

i wish you came back

ever in her Urn

- Noragami

mosa, the only one I

e

- Seahorse Choke

the wings of a tragedy

tember is the only time i sent thinking of you

Lais Plans

atellites were set alight

areas/Anthems

Holden

ory in Silence

ith paper wings

SIDE B

Gnashing at his heels

- Primative Rage

316 BAD BITCH

Beat Down - CLAWED OUT

The Sink

- BILLY KS

EVIL EYE/DIE TWICE

XGAARGO4LEX

Criminal

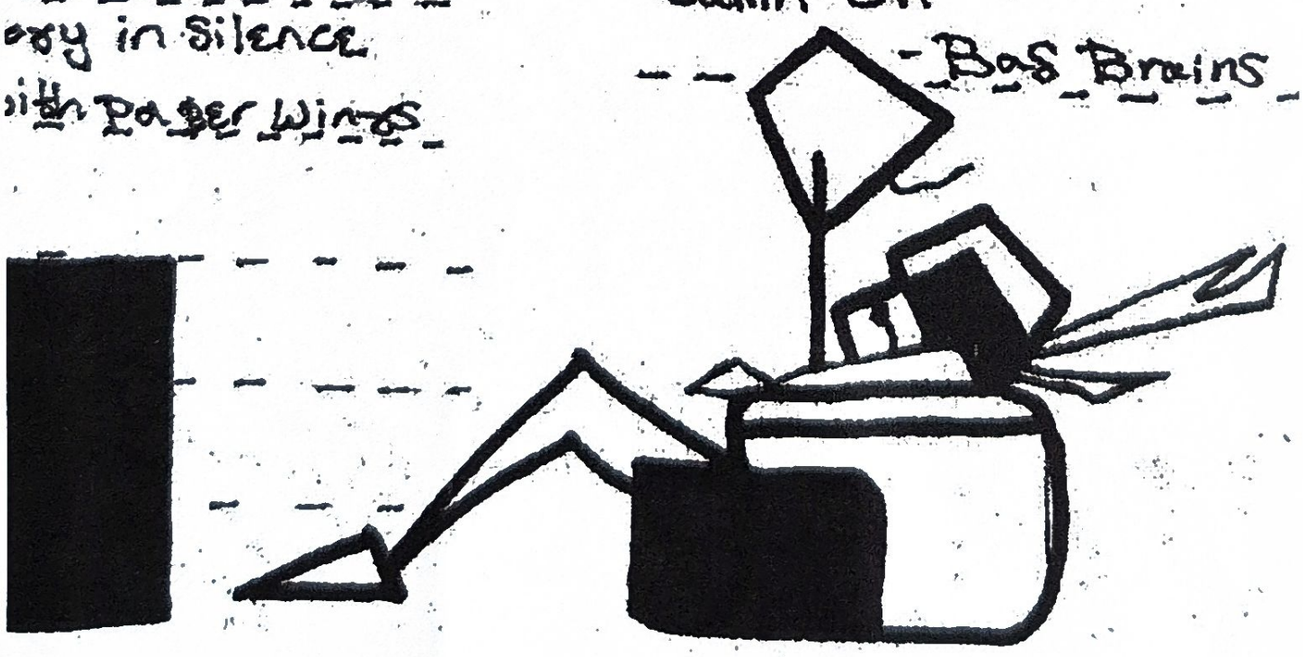
- Slant

Rasins Hate, Fear + flower Power Violence

- Spazz

Sailin' On

- Bad Brains

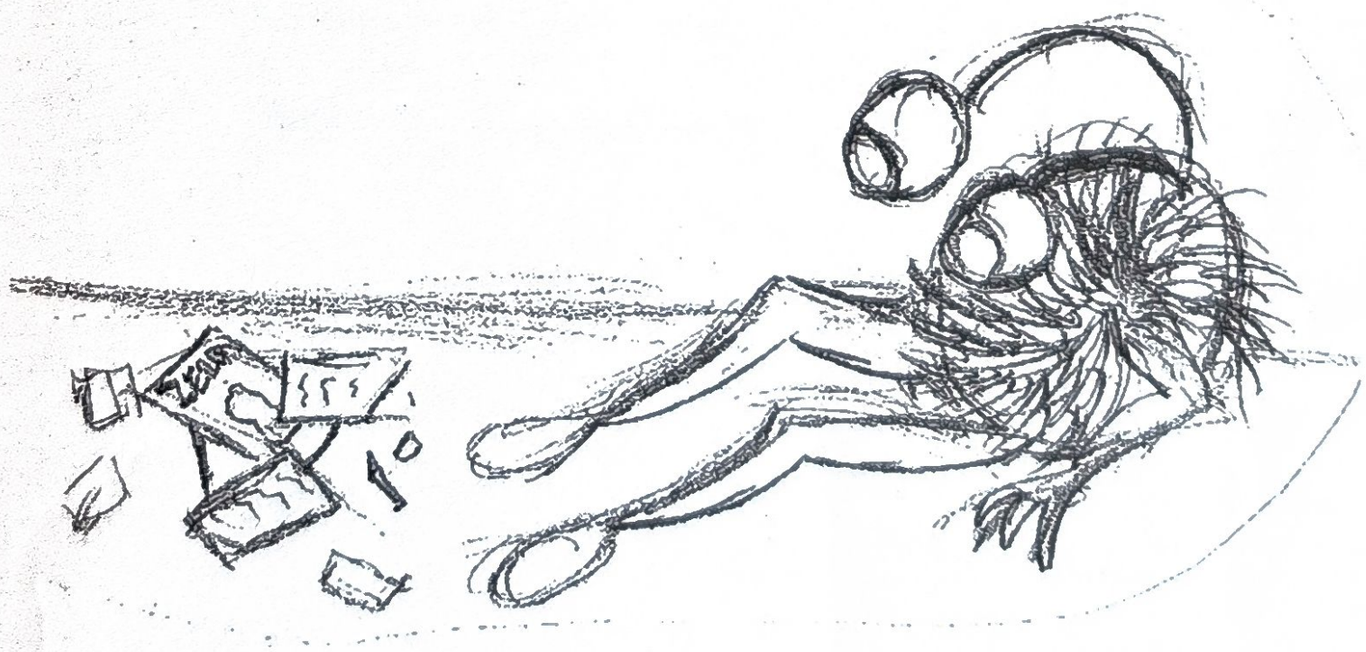


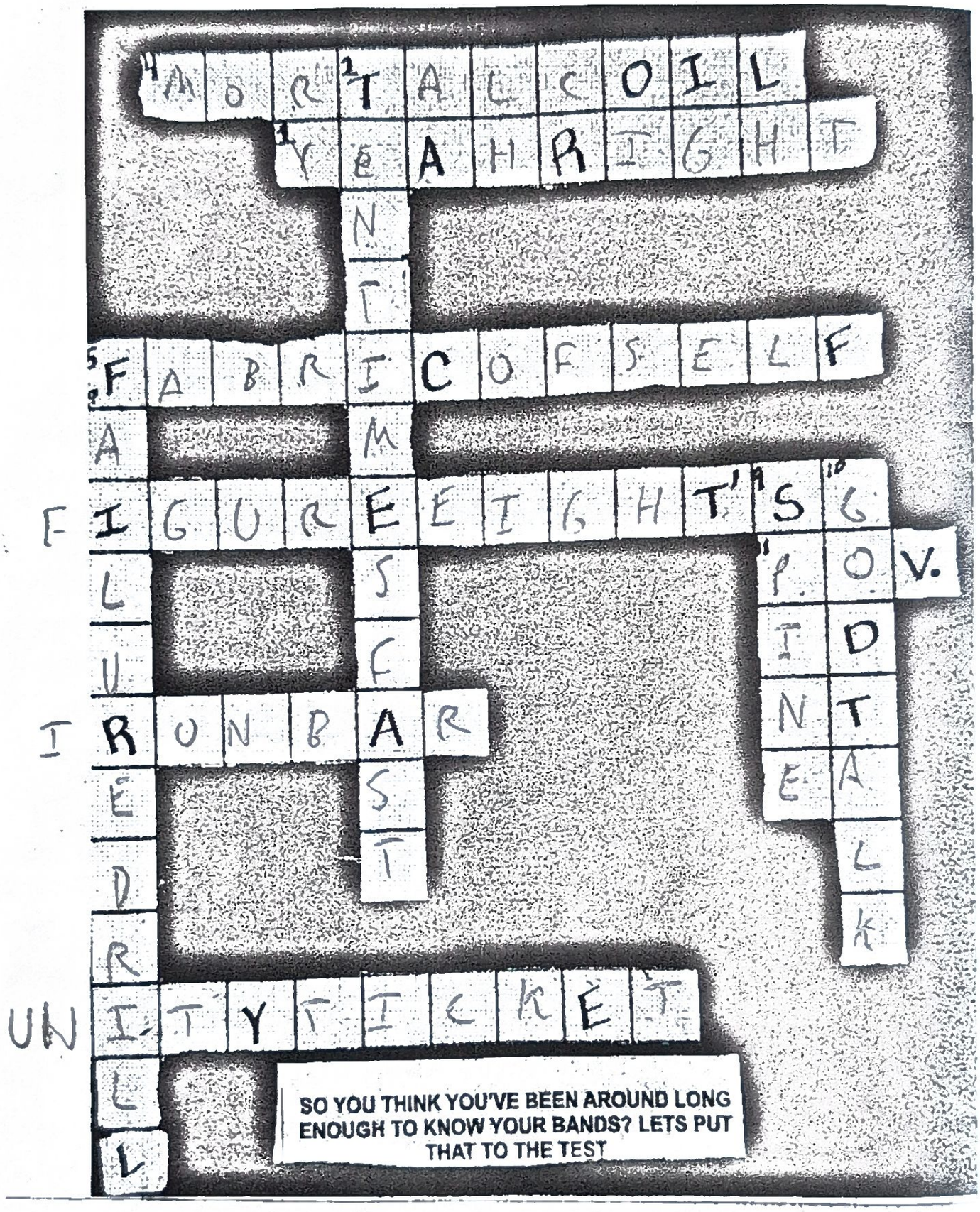
Till Next Time!

Well, that is a wrap! Shout out to all the homies who have allowed us to make this happen. From what started as a "fuck it lets start a zine", to actually getting this thing off the ground. We could not be more amazed at all the rad individuals who have helped us by making logos, creating the crossword, or just giving opinions on the playlist. We wanted a way to share art, stories, and just cool stuff with our friends and fellow KC music scene. While this zine isn't perfect we hope it embodies the spirit of the DIY attitude and the connection here in our little space! And to our dear reader I hope that you take away something cool and hopefully we inspired you to make something too! Well at the minimum I hope we entertained you for a little :)

Thank you again for taking the time to read our stories and look at our art! and please reach out if you have cool stories, art, or puzzles you would like to add to our next zine. I hope this becomes a space to share the talent that can be found here in the KC scene!

Signing off till next time,
ZEROX Magazine.
P.s if you are interested in submitting please reach out to @red.lizard.wxd





ACROSS

1. HELL FUCKIN YEAH
3. IF YOU HAVENT BEEN TATTED BY THIS BANDS FRONTMAN YET YER AN HERB
4. THAT ONE BALD GUY FROM FAILURE DRILL PLAYS BASS IN THIS BAND
5. METALCORE BAND WITH A NEW RECENT SINGLE TITLED "ISOLATED IN PAIN"
7. BAND WITH A STYLE SIMILAR TO DRUG CHURCH & MILITARE GUN
8. GOOD MELODIC HARDCORE MADE BY KIDS WHO LIKELY HAVE A GEOMETRY TEST IN THE MORNING
11. BELOVED BAND KNOWN FOR THEIR SPLIT WITH YEAH RIGHT

DOWN

2. RELEASED THEIR EP "REFLECTIONS" IN 2025. INFLUENCED BANDS LIKE BASEMENT & TITLE FIGHT
6. HIT SQUAD
9. LONGTIME POWERVIOLENCE INFLUENCED BAND. HEAVY AND VIOLENT WITH A 15 YEAR TENURE.
10. A MEMBER OF THE "ASWEFABRICSELFHOMICIDE" POLYCULE